WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A recording material comprising, on a support, a recording layer containing a diazo compound and an azolinyl acetic acid derivative as a coupler which reacts with the diazo compound to form a color.
- 2. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the azolinyl acetic acid derivative is a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

 General formula (1)

$$(R^{12})_n = X CH_2 - C - R^{11}$$

wherein X represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; R¹¹ represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group, -OR¹³ or -NR¹⁴R¹⁵; R¹² represents a substituent; R¹³ represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group; R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group; n represents an integer from 0 to 4; and when n is an integer of 2 or greater, two or more R¹²s may be linked with each other to form a ring.

3. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is a diazonium salt represented by the following general formula (2):

General formula (2)

$$R^4-Y^1$$
 $N_2+X^ R^6-Y^3$

wherein R⁴ and R⁶ each independently represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group or an acyl group, and may be linked with each other to form a ring;

 R^5 represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, an acyl group or a heterocyclic group; Y^1 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or an amino group; Y^2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a single bond; Y^3 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a hydrogen atom, provided that when Y^3 is a hydrogen atom, R^6 is not present; and X^- represents an anion.

4. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is a diazonium compound represented by the following general formula (3):

General formula (3)

wherein R⁷ and R⁸ each independently represents an alkyl group or an aryl group; R⁹ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group; and X⁻ represents an anion.

5. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is a diazonium compound represented by the following general formula (4):

General formula (4)

wherein R^{10} , R^{11} and R^{12} each independently represents an alkyl group or an aryl group; R^{11} and R^{12} may be linked with each other to form a ring; and X^{-} represents an anion.

6. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound

is encapsuled in a microcapsule.

- 7. The recording material according to claim 6, wherein the microcapsule has a microcapsule wall made from at least one polymer selected from polyurethane or polyurea.
- 8. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the coupler is contained in the recording layer in an amount of 0.2 to 8 moles per 1 mole of the diazo compound.
- 9. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the diazo compound is contained in the recording layer in an amount of 0.02 to $3g/m^2$.
- 10. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains an organic base.
- 11. The recording material according to claim 10, wherein the organic base is used in an amount of 0.1 to 30 parts by mass per 1 part by mass of the diazo compound.
- 12. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains a color forming auxiliary.
- 13. The recording material according to claim 12, wherein the color forming auxiliary is a heat melting substance.

- 14. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains an antioxidant.
- 15. The recording material according to claim 14, wherein the antioxidant is added in an amount of 0.05 to 100 parts by mass per 1 part by mass of the diazo compound.
- 16. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains a free radical generating agent.
- 17. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer further contains a vinyl monomer.
- 18. The recording material according to claim 1, wherein the recording layer is a thermal recording layer.
- 19. An azolinyl acetic acid derivative represented by the following general formula (1a):

General formula (1a)

wherein Y represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom; and R²¹ represents an alkyl group or an aryl group.